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PATENT APPLICATION

Response Under 37 C.F.R. 1.116 Expedited Procedure Examining Group 3682

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of:

Sakae MATSUMOTO et al.

Appln. No.: 09/936,564

Group Art Unit: 3682

Filed: September 14, 2001

Examiner: B. Van Pelt

For: COUPLING STRUCTURE OF EXTENSIBLE SHAFTS

* * *

AMENDMENT AFTER FINAL REJECTION

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Attn: Mail Stop AF

Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed April 22, 2003, please amend the above-identified patent application as indicated below.

Amendments to the claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 9 of this paper.

PAGE 5/21 * RCVD AT 1/19/2004 6:20:32 PM [Eastern Standard Time] * SVR:USPTO-EFXRF-1/1 * DNIS:8729306 * CSID:703 610 8968 * DURATION (mm-ss):03-36